

**United Suffolk Sheep Association
Board of Directors Conference Call
August 31, 2016**

Board Member Present: President, Paul Skartvedt, Vice-President, Larry Pauly, Treasurer, Bill Royer, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Ron Alves, Matt Beals, Dale Dobberpuhl, Bret Henderson, Randy Hodges and Amanda Dobson. Board Members Absent: Kip Kuntz, Rob Zelinsky and Joe Emenheiser. State/Regional Suffolk Sheep Association Representatives: Kathy Krafka Harkema, Iowa and Greg Ahart, California.

President, Paul Skartvedt, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Meeting Minutes

Secretary Everts asked those directors who had not responded to the email sent for approval of past meeting minutes to check their email and review the minutes so that they can be included in the next issue of the Banner.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Everts reported she has been busy with registry work, Fall Newsletter, election mailing and end of fiscal year bookkeeping. The USSA Online Bred Ewe Sale has been scheduled through wlivestock.com on Oct. 19-20. For registry work, comparing fiscal year to date with last year, registrations are up 74 and transfers are up 274. The fiscal year ends September 30th. For the upcoming director's election, the following candidates are running in their respective districts; 1- Gayle Lucas; 2 – Tom Burke, Bill Gergen, Chris Mallett and Randy Steinhausen; 3 – Bill Royer and 4 – Randy Hodges. District 2 will be only district which members will return an election ballot.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Royer reported that to-date income is greater than expenses, showing the association as a net positive. The investment fund balance is \$208,196.12. At this time there is no plan to withdraw any funds from the investment account.

Committee Reports

By-Laws

Ron Alves reported that the by-law revisions will not be sent out this year with the election mailing. The committee will continue to work on revisions and propose to the board in the future.

Youth Promotion

The futurity points are being submitted to the office.

Marketing/Promotion

Bret Henderson reported Amanda Everts has communicated with EDJE regarding the logo design and set-up services with LogoBee. LogoBee recently provided 13 options that have been sent to the committee to review. Bret anticipated that the committee will request receive additional options.

Budget

Bill Royer reported that the 2016/2017 fiscal year budget was approved in June. For the year, the junior association has had greater expenditures than income. Bill, along with Rob Zelinsky, will be working with the Junior Coordinators and Junior Board on a budget for the next show, including fundraising ideas. Kathy Krafka Harkema reported that the Iowa Suffolk Sheep Association approved a \$500 sponsorship for the 2017 junior show.

Scholarship

No Report. Applications are due October 1st.

Hospitality

Amanda Dobson reported the sub lunch at the Midwest Sale was successful.

Ambassador

No Report

Hall of Fame

Amanda Everts reported on Rob Zelinsky's behalf that he has been in contact with all of the Hall of Fame inductees except Dwight Stone's Family. He will continue to try to contact the Stone family.

Breed Improvement

Matt Beals reported there has not been a lot of participation with the Let's Grow Grant offerings. He did note that there have been a lot of new Suffolk members in NSIP. There may be future discussions on other things that can be done through and with the grant funds. Matt also reported that there has been interest by some universities to submit a grant to the Let's Grow Program to train additional scanning technicians. Matt is investigating some other universities on the east East Coast that may be interested.

Strategic Planning Update

Breed Improvement, Matt Beals – The board needs to continue to find ways that becoming a member and registering sheep has a value to Suffolk breeders. It was reported that there are range flocks seeking black face ewes to internally develop their own range rams/terminal sires. Currently, there is one flock that is seeking 2000 black face ewes.

Promotion, Joe Emenheiser- No new report.

Maintain Financially Viable Association, Bill Royer- There will be a conference call scheduled prior to NAILE that will investigate the USSA Office handling registry work for additional breeds.

Youth Development, Bret Henderson – No new report. Work will continue on look into new ideas for youth involvement. Ron Alves reported on his Suffolk Hotspot, he will provide details in the next newsletter.

Communication Plan, Joe Emenheiser – Amanda Everts reported that she will work this Joe this fall in developing a press release and communication pieces to share with publications and the membership.

Amanda Everts reported that she and Paul Skartvedt have received a drafted report for Jim Gibb about the Strategic Planning weekend; the report will be shared with directors once it's finalized.

Old Business

Logo

Reported with the marketing/promotion update.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting and Hall of Fame Recognition night will be Tuesday, November 15. There was discussion about the meal that will be served. Bill Royer made a motion that the USSA subsidize the cost of the dinner so that members will only pay \$20 per person and that Suffolk lamb will be served. The motion was seconded by Larry Pauly. There was a roll call vote; yes- Alves, Pauly, Beals, Dobson, Dobberpuhl, Royer and Henderson, no- Hodges. Motion passed. Attendance to this event should be encouraged.

New Business

NAILE Schedule

Amanda Everts reported that the junior breeding show will be on Sunday, annual meeting on Tuesday and open show on Wednesday. The Suffolk market lambs will be shown on the weekend, the premium book is not posted to report which day they will be shown on. It was decided that the USSA Board Meetings will be on Tuesday beginning at 9am.

NAILE Judge Selection

Amanda Everts reminded the board that a motion was approved earlier in the year that there will only be one judge for the 2017 NAILE Suffolk Open Show.

NAILE Judging Contest

There was a short discussion regarding judging contests and encouraging organizers to include a breeding sheep class.

RENO Sale Update

There was a short discussion regarding RENO sale management. Greg Ahart reported that Willoughby Sales will be managing the Reno sale in 2017.

There was a short discussion that members should be encouraged to ask for and share buyer's email address with the association. The email addresses will be added to the distribution lists for email blasts from the association.

Matt Beals made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Larry Pauly. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.